

HOAG & SONS' BOOK BINDERY X  
SPRINGPORT, MICHIGAN  
49284

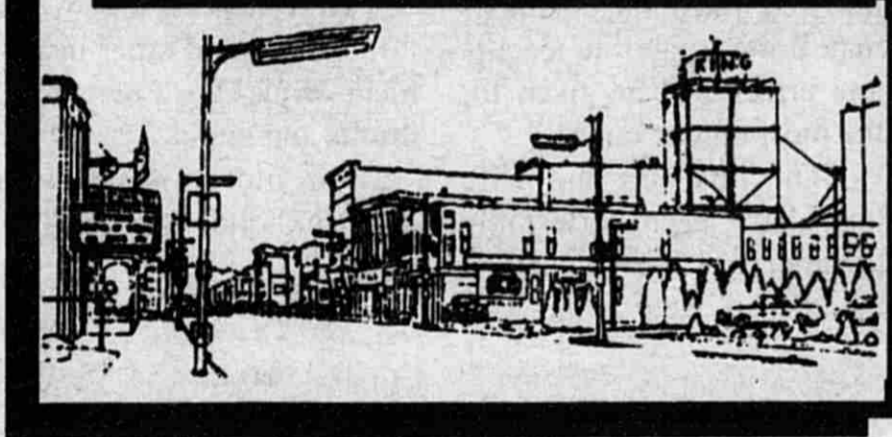
# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 10

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

## Along Main Street



### WATCH THE "VISIONS OF PEACE - SANTA CLAUS PARADE" ON CHANNEL 20

Check out the Saturday, Dec. 1 events on Lowell Cable Channel 20 on the following dates: Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 3 p.m.; Thursday, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 7 at 9 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 8 at 10 a.m.

### LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL BAND CONCERT

The Lowell High School band concert will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at the high school. The public is welcome.

### ATTENTION

#### LOWELL SENIOR PARENTS

Lowell Senior Class of 2002 trip is scheduled for May 23. Checks may be made in full (\$100) or in installments on Thursday, Dec. 6 or 7 during lunch periods. Make checks payable to Lowell Senior Parents or mail to Carol Drenth, 10200 Bennett, Lowell. May also pay during Feb. and March.

#### FARM PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

The Wittenbach Center will continue its farm photo display on Dec. 10 from 4-8 p.m. Any questions, call Tammy at 987-1002.

#### 5-5 YMCA BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The YMCA is now accepting team registrations for its winter basketball league starting Tuesday, Jan. 15. Stop in or call the YMCA at 897-8445 to sign up today.

#### YMCA REFEREES NEEDED

If you would be interested in being a referee for the YMCA winter basketball league, call Dan at 897-8445 ext. 705 for more information.

#### LOWELL AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT BLOOD DRIVE

The Lowell Area Fire Department is sponsoring a blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood Program on Wednesday, Dec. 5 from 2-7 p.m. at the Look Memorial Fire Station located at 315 S. Hudson.

#### LOWELL SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB

It is not too late to sign up for discount option packages for Cannonsburg Ski Area. Elementary contact: Heather Kohtz 897-4125 ext. 440 or hkohtz@lowellk12.mi.us; middle and high school contact: Kathy Talus 897-4125 or ktalus@lowellk12.mi.us

#### NATURE HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOP

The craft workshop will be held at the Wittenbach Center on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$20; payment and registration required in advance. Call 987-1002.

#### ROGUE RIVER ARTISANS SHOW AND SALE

The 19th annual Rogue River Artisans Show will take place at Lowell High School (formerly at Deer Run) on Saturday, Dec. 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. At least 75 designers/artists will be selling specialty items; a light breakfast and lunch will be available as well. \$1 admission is charged at the door with all proceeds going to the 2003 Lowell High School class.

#### SADD COLLECTING FOODS FOR NEEDY

The SADD club from Lowell High School will be going door-to-door collecting non-perishable foods on Tuesday, Dec. 12 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the area of the Rollaway Family Fun Center and donating them to Flat River Outreach Ministries. Also foods may be dropped off at the Fun Center.



## Parading in the Christmas Season

Santa was the celebrated guest at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce annual Christmas parade. Santa and his sleigh was one of roughly 60 entries in this year's parade. Float winners were Brenda's Hair Design (1st), \$150; St. Patrick Camp Fire Club (2nd) \$100; and Boot Scoot-N-Riders (3rd), \$75. Earning honorable mention status were the Lowell YMCA Ladies Beginners Fitness Class; Lowell Area Historical Museum and the Christian Life Center.

## Township residents not pleased with what an early '70s easement purchase agreement will bring

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

What local power companies call essential public service, area Vergennes Township residents view as a threat to rural space and its land's integrity.

Old antiquated poles, 69,000 volt lines and insulators currently used by Lowell Light and Power need to be upgraded to ensure ample voltage is available to serve its customers.

The proposal is an addition of transmission lines from the Vergennes/Marquette 138,000 volt line to a Lowell Light & Power line north of Foreman.

Construction of the transmission lines and Bowes Road substation, while ensuring proper voltage, will be costly. The cost to LL&P will be approximately \$4 million. The Lowell utility company currently pays Wolverine roughly \$13,000 a month to transfer the power from Consumers Power to LL&P. That cost will be eliminated once the lines and substation are constructed.

Many residents affected by the proposal have turned to Vergennes Township for help. "This is not a township matter. This is between Consumers Power and the residents," said Vergennes Township clerk, Mari Stone. "Many residents are concerned that their property backs up to the easement (school property), yet they are in jeopardy of losing some trees."

Ernie Sagraska, Consumers Power area manager, said the company is holding conversations with the school in hopes of running the lines further east onto the school property and thus having less or no impact on the residential properties affected.

While the new line may may not have a direct impact on Vergennes' residents, the line will secure proper voltage for the Englehardt Library, restaurants and doctors' offices. "Because of that, it will have an indirect impact on all residents," Sagraska said.

Brian Ricksgers, township resident, said the construction of the transmission line will have a direct impact on him. "Changing the landscape impacts residents' lives. It will destroy our open space and the natural integrity of our land," he said. "I also have environmental, stray voltage and lightning concerns."

In the early '70s, Consumers Power purchased easement rights for the disputed five-six-mile stretch from the land owners. Subsequently, homes have been built in the area.

The route selected was one of three considered for the transmission line. Easements for the other two routes considered have not been purchased. "Securing easement rights would be costly and time-consuming," Sagraska explained.

While some latitude exists as to how much land will be cleared, the route used is no longer in question.

"The decision as to what is cleared will be made on a case to case basis," Sagraska said. "There are sizeable trees out there."

Consumers Power representatives met with the Vergennes Township Board in September to inform it of the proposed construction. The company has slated to begin construction this spring with the completion date scheduled for fall.

## INSIDE THE LEDGER

Winter Sports,  
Pages 16-18

Santa Comes To Town,  
Page 20

# OBITUARIES

**BARNES** - James Edward Barnes, aged 48, of Lowell, passed away November 28, 2001. He was preceded in death by his father Robert, brothers Bruce and Larry. Jim is survived by his mother Evelyn of Lowell; brothers Bob of Belding, David (Jayne) of Lowell, Douglas (Sue) of VA; several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held Saturday at the First United Methodist Church of Lowell, Rev. Gordie Barry, officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church.

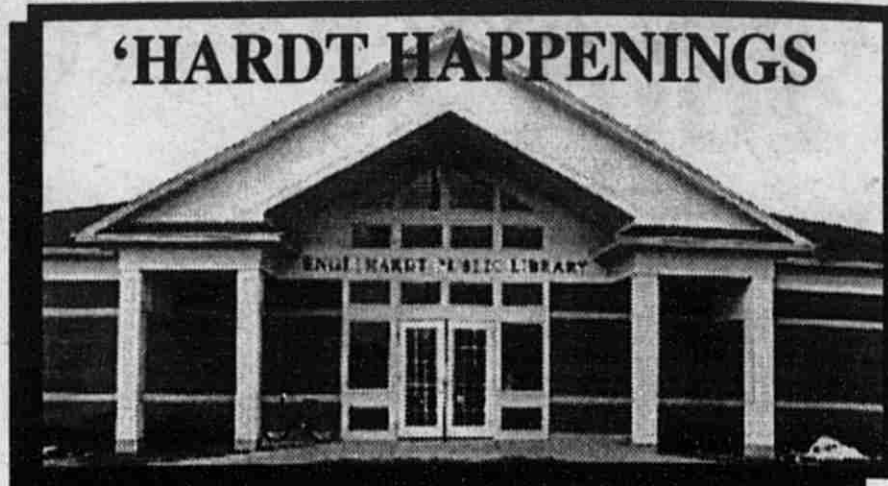
**KING** - Roy Howard King, aged 91, of Boston Township, formerly of Battle Creek, passed away November 28, 2001, in Lowell. He was born November 5, 1910, in Home, Mich., the son of Albert and Ida S. (Pomroy) King. He loved the outdoors and enjoyed raising his roses. He was a WWII veteran of the Army. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Catherine King of Boston Twp.; stepsons David (Jackie) Kilbourn of Boston Twp., Jerry Kilbourn of Boston Twp. and Kenneth Kilbourn of Marshall; step-daughters Barbara Baxter of Boston Twp. and Donna Shea of Battle Creek; brother Louis King of

Battle Creek; sister Bernice Chamberlin of Homer; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Cremation has taken place and there will be a memorial service held Wednesday at the Floral Lawn Memorial Gardens with Rev. Stanley Day officiating.

**RIGGS** - Elois E. Riggs, aged 75, of Lowell, died Friday, November 30, 2001. She was preceded in death by her husband Walter, grandson Keith Riggs, and great-grandson Jared Rodriguez. She is survived by her children Darlene (Dale) Fege, Eugene Riggs all of Lowell, Diana (Jim) White of Kentwood, Larry Riggs of Sparta; seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Funeral services

were held Monday at O'Brien-Gebelein-Gerst Chapel, Dale Fege, officiating. Interment Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan, 1260 Ekhart NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

**WOLFE** - Chris Gene Wolfe, aged 45, of Wyoming, went to be with the Lord on Monday, November 26, 2001. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War, serving in the Air Force in Korea. Surviving are his wife Mary; children Chris Wolfe, Stephanie Wolfe; step-daughters Barb Kole, Chris Carter, Stacey Seely; father Bob Wolfe; brothers Scott Wolfe, Steve and Debbie Burrows; sister Vicki and Dale Lee. Cremation has taken place. Private services will be held.



The Friends of the Englehardt Library will host a holiday tea at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 21 in the library's community room. This program for adults features Tom and Cherie Hagen, popular multi-talented musicians. Guests may bring a favorite teacup, and prizes will be given for the most unique cups. Tom plays the piano, guitar, clarinet and other instruments while Cherie plays bass, drums and guitar. For more information about the holiday tea, call 897-9596.

The balance (\$185,000) will be divided between the city of Lowell and the townships of Vergennes and Lowell. The resolution allows for the city to finance a portion of the purchase price, at a tax exempt installment purchase agreement during the time the truck is delivered. The city will solicit proposals from the local financial institutions.

The bid, the only one received by the city, was forwarded by Roger Cahoon. The \$1,000 bid was the minimum acceptable bid. Cahoon will be asked to move the house by May 30, 2002. He will be expected to meet all permit requirements for the move and the house-moving requirements adopted by the city earlier in the year. City manager, Dave Pasquale said it would have cost the city \$3-\$4,000 to have the house razed.

At an April 24, 2000, meeting, the city council approved the upgrade of the PTAS tax administration system, which handles the assessing and treasurer functions for Kent County. The upgraded system is the "best of class" software for tax administration and eliminates "double entry" performed by the local assessor and the Bureau of Equalization for reconciliation. Lowell city manager, Dave Pasquale told the council the final amended agreement contained several minor changes. He also noted that city attorney, Richard Wendt read over and approved of the changes.

As part of a continuing resolution, the city collects Lowell Area Schools' taxes at no fee but is able to keep the interest earned during the bank deposit before distributing these monies. In other action: The city approved the final amended agreement for the Property Tax Administration System's (PTAS) upgrade project.

At an April 24, 2000, meeting, the city council approved the upgrade of the PTAS tax administration system, which handles the assessing and treasurer functions for Kent County. The upgraded system is the "best of class" software for tax administration and eliminates "double entry" performed by the local assessor and the Bureau of Equalization for reconciliation. Lowell city manager, Dave Pasquale told the council the final amended agreement contained several minor changes. He also noted that city attorney, Richard Wendt read over and approved of the changes.

As part of a continuing resolution, the city collects Lowell Area Schools' taxes at no fee but is able to keep the interest earned during the bank deposit before distributing these monies. In other action: The city approved the final amended agreement for the Property Tax Administration System's (PTAS) upgrade project.

## Local Chiropractic office Collects "TOYS FOR TOTS"

The holiday season is quickly approaching. Children throughout Michigan are making their lists and checking them twice. This joyous season also marks the 54th year of the Toys for Tots Campaign, dedicated to bringing needy children toys at Christmas.

Joining the U.S. Marine Corps in asking for your generous help in making children's dreams come true. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy to Doctors Chiropractic, next to Meijers in Lowell, between now and Dec. 13. You can help guarantee that every child has a Merry Christmas.

This year Dr. Paul Tuthill and Dr. Anthony Trombly are

Lowell, between now and Dec. 13. You can help guarantee that every child has a Merry Christmas.

## COLLEGE NEWS

The Center for Basic Cancer Research at Kansas State University has presented 41 undergraduate students at K-State with competitive cancer research awards. The awards are supported through private gifts to the center, which is part of the College of Arts and Sciences. From this area is Aaron Plattner, a junior in nutrition and exercise, and premedicine. He is the son of Howard and Kristen Plattner of Lowell.

### ATTENTION LOWELL SENIOR PARENTS Lowell Senior Class Trip 2002

Thursday, May 23 is the tentative date for the party. Cost is \$100 per student. Payment of the entire amount can be paid in one lump sum or installments may be made. All checks should be made payable to Lowell Senior Parents. Collections committee members will be available during the following lunch periods to take reservations and collect money: Dec. 6 & 7; Feb. 7 & 8 & March 7 & 8. Payments may also be mailed directly to our treasurer: Carol Drenth, 10200 Bennett, Lowell, MI 49331

### NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW DECEMBER 11, 2001

#### NOTICE OF CORRECTED PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT

ACT 14 OF 1985, being Section 211.53 (b) of General Property Tax Laws provides for correction of clerical errors and due to mutual mistake of fact with respect to assessment roll figures, upon verification of the local assessing officer and approval by the Board of Review at a meeting called for the purpose, at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday following the Second Monday in December.

On December 11, 2001, a meeting will be called for the purpose at 9:00 a.m. in the Vergennes Township Hall to conduct business as provided for in Section 211.53(b), Michigan Compiled Laws.

Mari C. Stone  
Vergennes Township Clerk

**ADA-LOWELL 5**  
M-215 Minutes East of Amway H.O. (1991)  
897-1351  
\$4.90 Kids all shows  
\$4.75 DAILY Matinee 11:00am & Seniors  
\$5.00 Students & Late Shows Fri & Sat  
\$5.75 Evening Men - Thurs. **ALL GREEN** DIGITAL STEREO  
No passes  
Unlimited Free Drink Refills & 25¢ Corn Refills  
Deluxe Air Hockey Table  
COMFORTABLE DELUXE ROCKING CHAIR SEATS WITH CUP HOLDERS

**MOVIE GUIDE**  
THE GIFT OF MOVIES  
\$10 Book Plus \$1 Free GIFT CERTIFICATES  
\$20 Book Plus \$2 Free

THESE RELEASES...  
SHOWTIMES 12/03 - 12/06  
BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG-13)  
12:20, 2:50, 5:00, 7:00, 9:15  
BLACK KNIGHT (PG-13)  
11:25, 1:35, 3:35, 5:30, 7:40, 9:35  
HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (PG)  
12:00, 1:20, 3:00, 4:15, 6:10, 7:10, 9:05, 10:00  
MONSTERS, INC. (G)  
11:00, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:25

**COUPON FREE 20oz DRINK**  
with \$1.50 (12 price) purchase of 4oz. bag of butterfly popcorn  
3¢ per oz. or less

www.gqi.com

# City extends collection of school summer taxes

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell Planning Commission chairman, Jim Hall was sure it's been longer than 15 years that the city has agreed to collect summer taxes for the Lowell School District.

The Lowell City Council extended the length of time by a year when it passed a resolution Monday night to collect the taxes.

The Lowell Board of Education requested that the city of Lowell collect the district's summer taxes levied upon property located within the boundaries of the city.

As part of a continuing resolution, the city collects Lowell Area Schools' taxes at no fee but is able to keep the interest earned during the bank deposit before distributing these monies.

In other action: The city approved the final amended agreement for the Property Tax Administration System's (PTAS) upgrade project.

At an April 24, 2000,

The balance (\$185,000) will be divided between the city of Lowell and the townships of Vergennes and Lowell.

The resolution allows for the city to finance a portion of the purchase price, at a tax exempt installment purchase agreement during the time the truck is delivered.

The city will solicit proposals from the local financial institutions.

A bid of \$1,000 for the house at 504 E. Main Street was accepted by the city council.

The bid, the only one received by the city, was forwarded by Roger Cahoon. The \$1,000 bid was the minimum acceptable bid.

Cahoon will be asked to move the house by May 30, 2002. He will be expected to meet all permit requirements for the move and the house-moving requirements adopted by the city earlier in the year.

City manager, Dave Pasquale said it would have cost the city \$3-\$4,000 to have the house razed.

## LaHaye inducted into Golden Key Int'l. Society



Laura LaHaye

Laura Elizabeth LaHaye of Lowell has accepted membership in Golden Key International Honour Society and was individually honored during a campus ceremony. "It is only fitting that a high academic achiever like Laura be recognized by Golden Key," said Kali Boatright, Golden Key assistant executive director. "Our

members are inspired and motivated by the challenge not only to be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments but also to make a positive impact on our world through the Society's commitment to service."

Golden Key International Honour Society is a nonprofit, academic honors organization that provides academic recognition, leadership opportunities, community service, career networking and scholarships.

Membership into the Society is by invitation only to the top 15 percent of juniors and seniors in all fields of study.

LaHaye is a junior at Western Michigan University majoring in Food Marketing. She is the daughter of Michael and Marsha LaHaye of Lowell.

## Family Dentistry & Braces Todd Gillan, D.D.S.



(across from Family Fare Shopping Plaza)  
2186 W. Main • Lowell

### Quality Dental Care For You & Your Family

- We Welcome New Patients
- Early Morning & Evening Appointments Available
- We Cater To Cowards
- Free Evaluation For Braces

897-8491

NOT A SPECIALIST

## 2ND ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

St. Patrick of Parnell Parish Center  
DECEMBER 31, 2001  
7:00 PM - 1:00 AM

\$35 PER PERSON

Table reservations can be made with a purchase of 10 tickets. (Checks will be held until Dec. 15)

DEADLINE FOR TICKET SALES 12/23/01  
**INCLUDES:**  
Beer, Wine & Coolers, Pop, Coffee  
Music by "Two To Tango"  
• Champagne at Midnight  
• Party Favors  
**FULL BUFFET DINNER**

\*Open To All Adults 21 & Over  
**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOV. 24!**  
Call Joe Nawrocki @ 874-4215  
or Sherri DuBridge 691-8295  
or School & Parish Office 691-8541

Presented By:  
St. Patrick School Athletic Association (Boosters)  
Proceeds support athletics at St. Patrick School

You Are Invited...  
A Christmas Musical Like Never Before!

# THE NOISE WE MAKE

A STUDENT-LED WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

It may sound like noise to you...  
But to the Father... it's WORSHIP!

Christian Life Center  
3050 Alden Nash SE...Lowell  
897-1100

Saturday & Sunday  
Dec. 8 & 9 - 6 p.m.

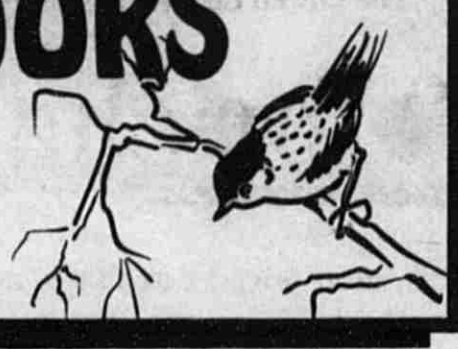
Free Admission

**HOLIDAY SERVICES**  
**WE SHIP UPS**  
The Lowell Ledger Buyers Guide  
105 N. Broadway  
Lowell, MI 49331



# OUTDOORS

By Dave Stegehuis



## LAST CHANCE

If you can stand the cold temperatures, December can provide one last opportunity to get out and hunt whitetail deer. It's difficult to pass up late season deer hunting because it will be nine months before the next season opens.

Muzzleloading season opens on Dec. 7 in the U.P. and Dec. 14 in the Lower Peninsula. You can hunt with an unused firearm license or a leftover tag from the combination license. If you have an antlerless deer license, that will work too. Be sure to check on the dates and areas that are covered by the particular license. There is also a late antlerless firearm season in designated deer management units on private land only that begins Dec. 17, 2001, and runs through Jan. 1, 2002. Don't

forget archery season re-opened on Dec. 1 and also continues until Jan. 1, 2002.

Hunting pressure is light or non-existent, so it can be a good time to relax and observe nature under more normal conditions. As December rolls along, the deer tend to settle down and begin to feed on a regular schedule. Most activity will be early and late in the day. At some point there is usually snow for the December hunt. It can be cold, however, so warm clothing is essential.

Muzzleloading technology is advancing faster than digital electronics; it is difficult to keep up with all that is new in rifles and ammunition. If you plan to get into muzzleloading for the first time or want to upgrade your present equipment, be prepared to do your homework. I still use a 50 caliber T.C. Hawk with a patched round ball and black powder. It has open sights which are coarse enough to allow me to shoot accurately if I limit my shots to 40 yards or less. Farther than that and it becomes difficult for old eyes to focus on the front sight, rear sight, and the target at the same time. I'm sticking with the Hawk in an attempt to keep something in my life simple.

Late season deer hunting is an activity to keep you out of mischief until the water gets hard enough to walk on and ice fishing gets underway or the snow gets deep enough for skis.

# Sharing The Vision

by Nancy Hopkins  
School board member

As this school year continues, there are challenges for Lowell Area Schools to face, as there will be for all public schools for many years into the future. But, it also is a year with great opportunities. And to those challenges and opportunities, the district is committed to and responsible for responding to our student and community's needs with focused, visionary leadership.

Between the Lowell community and the Lowell Area Schools, a strong foundation exists for effective school leadership. Responsible, active school leadership continues to look for ways to improve educational programs and services, and here in Lowell, we can be encouraged by the support and input received from those people key to continued improvement - parents, teachers, administrators and students, local business leaders and community residents.

Competition for resources and community support seems

to be a fact of life in these changing times. In this district, positive, well-defined steps formulated today will help shape future leadership, plan for future resource needs and continued community involvement. The board of education and administrative staff focus much effort now on how to function as an effective leadership team to aid in the long-term development of responsible finances and educational performance improvements. Despite the unsure national economy, the district's dedication to sound fiscal planning - itself a vote of confidence for sustained leadership and vision - positions Lowell Area Schools to not only survive, but excel in the future's increasingly competitive education market.

As a community we will face the challenges that come with every school year. In the LAS district, there is assurance that a course is being charted now for dedicated, visionary leadership - visionary leadership that will protect the needs of current and future boards as education policy-makers and administrators as strategic planners. It will support teachers, parents, residents and the business community as partners in assuring student performance and our district's success. Vision and leadership - a meaningful approach alive and active in LAS today and needed to successfully address significant school issues tomorrow.

We're just now settling in for winter, but it is never too early to plant a seed, and so I encourage you to consider stepping up and sharing your community spirit, talents and skills as a candidate for the Lowell Area Schools Board of Education in the spring. Help the Lowell schools face the challenges and recognize its opportunities. You will contribute to the continued success of our district.

## To The Editor, continued...From Page 5

The reason I am writing is that I wanted to share some things I have learned in this year's classes that I have found particularly relevant. If you accept the new historicist view of literary criticism, you need to believe that there is no "one monolithic voice of an era," much as all our history books would have had us believe. History is written by the winners. There are always marginalized groups that are ignored in their time, some to be rediscovered later. Accounts are shaped by and simultaneously shape the culture that produced them.

We all view the world with our own biases. If you were to take a Marxist view, you would believe that who you are taught to think you are is determined by the economic system of the culture and socioeconomic status to which you are born. Kate Democoeur touched on this issue of diversity in her recent article in *Sharing the Vision*. This great country was founded on those basic freedoms that allow us all to speak our mind, and draws immigrants to seek refuge in America. Freedom of speech, press...

The term I wanted to mention is called "white male privilege." If you belong to the segment of the population that is Caucasian and male, you are born with the physical qualities that will afford you potential success that all others will be required to compensate for. Think about the people that control our government. Consider the canonized literature that presided exclusively over education until the last decade or so; picture the officials who run our businesses, banks and churches. Even in America, what percentage of these people do you honestly believe to be nonwhites and/or women?

People who do not speak English well - this includes a good portion of those who consider themselves red-blooded Americans - have a difficult enough time succeeding. Think of inner city children that grow up hearing only Black English vernacular, Hispanic and Asian students that are sometimes the first generation in their family to speak English.

I don't believe "political correctness" has so much to do with the issue of "a few jokes" as much as being responsible as the owner of a community newspaper, in light of the fact that police intervention was required in Chicago the week of the terrorist attacks to prevent a mob of 300 from marching on a

mosque, Islamic and Arab facilities in Michigan, Illinois, Texas and Australia all were vandalized as a form of displaced retaliation.

As Grand Rapids Press editor, Mike Lloyd stated, "How a nation's people behave in a time of crisis is a true measure of its greatness." Do we really need to propagate any more suffering of innocent people?

I am biased. I hold deep prejudice against any government that would ban flying kites - as the Taliban government has done. I am biased against any legislation that would require a woman to cover her face and ban education for girls over the age of eight, and banning women from working outside the home or from practicing medicine. Unfortunately the Taliban is not the only government that treats women as second-class citizens.

I do not believe, however, that these governments represent the views of all their citizens, nor do I believe they speak for the estimated 5,000 to 7,000 Arab-Americans living in West Michigan.

I am a product of the place and time that I have grown up in. Knowing what society says is "right" and how I feel are sometimes two different things and can be a struggle. Everyone is entitled to his or her own opinion. By the same token, you also have the right to change your mind.

Respectfully yours,  
Debra Duiven

### To the Editor:

In the Nov. 28, 2001 issue of the supplement to the Ledger "A Network of Early Childhood Educational Opportunities," articles were contributed on everything available to the Lowell area except for the Lowell United Methodist Preschool. How could this have been an oversight? The Ledger did an unjust service to the preschool and the community.

Cristina Buechler

## Health With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang & Kevin Miller



### PNEUMONIA

We discussed influenza in last week's article. A complication of influenza, especially in the elderly, is pneumonia. Pneumonia is typically caused by bacterial infection. Symptoms include a productive cough, rust-colored mucus, shaking chills, shortness of breath, chest pain increased with deep breathing, and extreme fatigue. This illness is treated with antibiotics and typically resolves in two weeks. If untreated, it can lead to respiratory failure.

Like influenza, there is also a vaccination for pneumonia. This vaccine covers one of the most common bacterial causes of pneumonia. A single dose is given and is sufficient for most people. There is no danger of getting pneumonia from the vaccine. Pneumonia vaccination is recommended for the following: all people 65 years or older; adults and children with chronic lung or heart problems; persons in whom their spleen has been removed; residents of extended care facilities (nursing homes); people treated in the last year for kidney disease, asthma, or other chronic disease such as diabetes and liver disease; and people undergoing chemotherapy or are otherwise immunocompromised.

This vaccination has been underutilized and has the potential to be life-saving. If you fit one of the categories listed above, please check with your health care provider regarding the pneumonia vaccination.

## Lowell teacher named Michigan Farm Bureau discussion meet winner

A pool of 37 competing Michigan Farm Bureau Young Farmers was narrowed to just one on Thursday, Nov. 29 when John Schut of Belding was chosen Discussion Meet winner.

The state Discussion Meet competition judges Young Farmers between the ages of 18 and 35 on their analysis of several agricultural topics, delivery of answers to key questions and cooperative attitude throughout the daylong competition.

As state winner, Schut is now qualified to compete for the national title. He was awarded a free trip to the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting, Jan. 6-9 in Reno, Nev., where he will compete with representatives from other state Farm Bureaus.

In order to make it to the state meet, Schut first successfully navigated through one of 11 District Discussion Meets in the state.

Schut, 27, is the agriscience instructor at Lowell High School in Kent County. He also serves as FFA advisor for the school's 150-member chapter. He and his wife, Kara, have a daughter, Alexandria, 6.

"The Discussion Meet has been a great experience for me," Schut said of his second year of competing. "Being able to discuss key issues and challenges with my peers allowed me to learn from them and gain an appreciation for the Farm Bureau organization."

The competitors discussed how Farm Bureau can help agriculturists create a positive image of the American farmer, how women have made a difference in American agriculture, the pros and cons of government support programs, and the issues and challenges that will affect agriculture over the next three years.

"There are three E's we need to focus on to improve American agriculture throughout the next three years: education, economics and environment," Schut said during the final competition. "If we focus on these three E's, agriculture will have a prosperous future."

In addition to the expense-paid trip to the national competition, Schut also received a Carhartt jacket sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and a \$500 cash award sponsored by Dodge Truck.



The most popular Christmas carol, which has been translated into every language on earth, is "Silent Night."

## LHS Men's Club raises almost \$2,000 for charities

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

The Lowell High School Men's Club has raised nearly \$2,000 for school, community and world charities this year.

The club was founded with the intent of funding charities across our community and the world, and to bet-

ter the lives of students at LHS, according to its ward chancellor, Chris Michael.

On Friday, high school girls were invited to bid on members of the club for an evening with member/members on Dec. 8 at the Christmas Dance. Winning bids ranged anywhere from \$35-\$160.

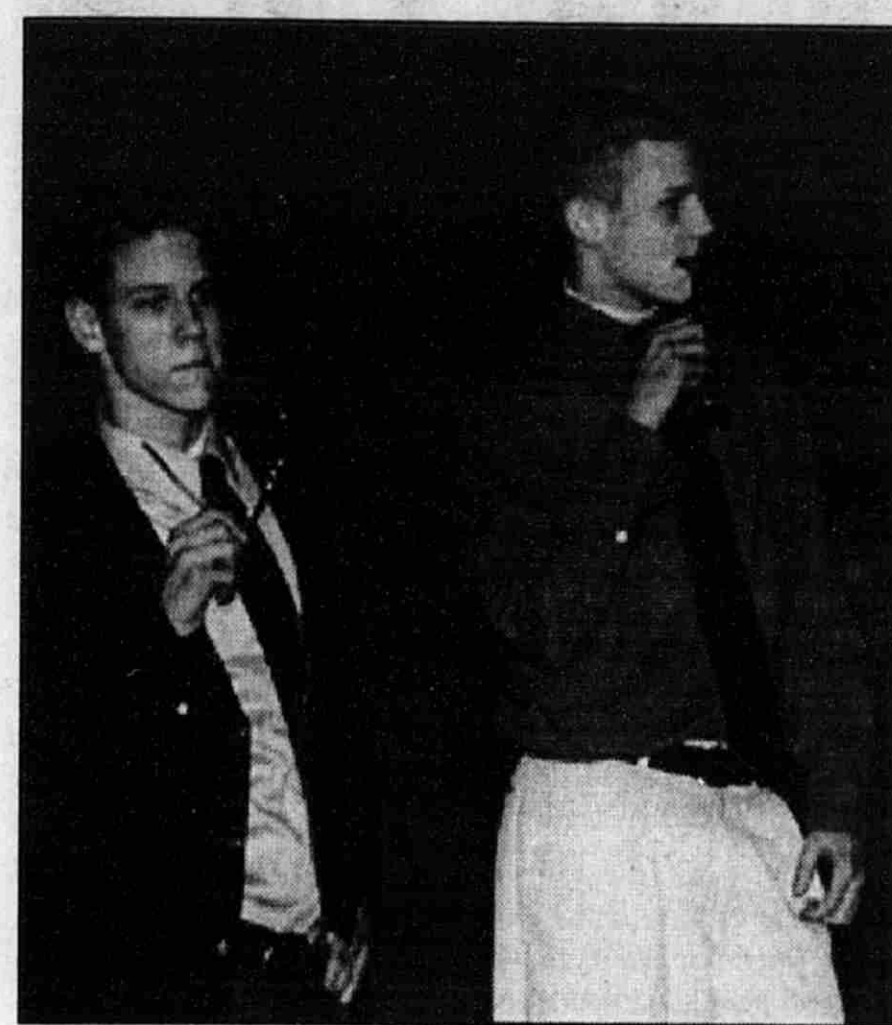
When through, the club

had raised \$1,206 for Flat River Outreach Ministries. The auction was held during seminar and was the third fundraiser held by the club so far this school year.

In September, the Men's Club held a car bash. Participants paid \$1 to hit a 1980 Dodge Lancer. The event raised \$300 for the Afghan Children's Fund.

Monies were also collected during a fall dance for the Red Cross. The funds went to the New York City Police and Fire departments' families who lost loved ones in the Sept. 11 bombing of the World Trade Center. The Men's Club raised \$400.

In all, the club has raised \$1,906.



The bidding got lively when the prize was an evening with a club member.

## Brenda's Hair Design stays in current location, and open for business

Brenda Bergy informed the Lowell Ledger that while she was considering moving her business, Brenda's Hair Design, to 617 W. Main, the move won't be taking place. The Hardings, who own the property, have accepted another person's bid.

Bergy said she went before the Lowell Planning Commission a couple of weeks ago to make sure the parking arrangements would work before proceeding with the deal and had even gotten support from a neighbor who would allow for ingress/egress along with additional parking.

Her salon, located in the Crystal Flash Plaza, is open, with Bergy stating that at this time, she had no plans to move.

**MARY KAY.**

**Remember Christmas Favorites From Mary Kay Cosmetics**

- NO MALL • NO TRAFFIC • NO CROWDS
- FREE WRAPPING • FREE DELIVERY

Contact Mary Kay Wierenga  
**897-6765**

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**ADVERTISE**  
IN THE  
LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY  
As Low as **\$6.60** PER WEEK  
Call 897-9261

**RE/MAX** Custom Service, Just For You!  
897-8106  
260-4080

**CHARLES LUPTON**  
**RE/MAX Country Hills**  
2050 W. Main St. • Suite C, Lowell  
\* Each office independently owned and operated

**Durkee Lumber, Inc.**  
Lumber and Building Materials  
**868-6026**  
6071 Depot St.  
Alto, MI

**DECEMBER SPECIALS**

**20% OFF**  
4 ITEMS OR MORE  
DRYCLEANING OR  
WETCLEANING ORDERS

Excludes Shirt Laundry

Bring In 6 Shirts  
Pay For 5

**CURTIS CLEANERS**  
SHIRT LAUNDRY • TUX RENTAL  
Open 7 Days • 897-9809 • 1410 W. Main

**FREE 1/2 HOUR MASSAGE**

- ★ New Patients Only
- ★ Certified Massage Therapist
- ★ Doctor Supervised

**Auto Injury, Neck And Back Pain Relief**

All Insurance Accepted  
**DOCTORS CHIROPRACTIC**  
897-4999

**Advertise in this space for only \$6.60 PER WEEK**  
Call 897-9261

**HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING**

- New Homes • Replacements
- Upgrades • Conversions Etc.

**Free Estimates!**

**Arctic, Inc.** bryant  
1301 Boves Rd., Lowell, MI 49331  
Phone 897-4123

**MIKA MEYERS BECKETT & JONES PLC**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

117 West Main Street  
Lowell, MI 49331  
(616) 897-3111

Ross A. Leisman  
Daniel C. Brubaker

**FREE EQUIPMENT**

**FREE BASIC INSTALLATION**

**dish NETWORK**

**TOM'S SATELLITE SYSTEMS**  
Call Today For Details  
**616-897-2016**

**SAVE \$\$\$\$**

Advertise in this space for only **\$6.60 PER WEEK**  
Call 897-9261

# Residents feel space and integrity threatened power lines

... "The decision as to what is cleared will be made on a case by case basis"

-Ernie Segraska

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

What local power companies see as essential public service, area Vergennes Township residents view as a threat to rural space and its land's integrity.

Old antiquated poles, 69,000 volt lines and insulators currently used by Lowell Light and Power need to be upgraded to ensure ample voltage is available to serve its customers.

The proposal is an addition of transmission lines from

the Vergennes/Marquette 138,000 volt line to a Lowell Light & Power line north of Foreman.

Construction of the transmission lines and Boves Road substation, while ensuring proper voltage, will be costly.

The cost to LL&P will be approximately \$4 million. The Lowell utility company currently pays Wolverine roughly \$13,000 a month to transfer the power from Consumers Power to LL&P. That cost will be eliminated once the lines and substation are constructed.

Ernie Segraska, Consumers Power area manager, said the company is holding con-

versations with the school in hopes of running the lines further east onto the school property and thus having less or no impact on the residential properties affected.

While the new line may not have a direct impact on Vergennes' residents, the line will secure proper voltage for the Englehardt Library, restaurants and doctors' offices.

"Because of that, it will have an indirect impact on all residents," Segraska said.

Brian Ricksgrs, township resident, said the construction of the transmission line will have a direct impact on him.

"Changing the landscape impacts residents' lives. It will destroy our open space and the natural integrity of our land," he said. "I also have environmental, stray voltage and lightning concerns."

In the early '70s, Consumers Power purchased easement rights for the disputed five-six-mile stretch from the land owners. Subsequently, homes have been built in the area.

The route selected was one of three considered for the transmission line. Easements for the other two routes considered have not been purchased.

"Securing easement rights would be costly and time-consuming," Segraska explained.

While some latitude exists as to how much land will be cleared, the route used is no longer in question.

"The decision as to what is cleared will be made on a case by case basis," Segraska said. "There are sizeable trees out there."

Consumers Power representatives met with the Vergennes Township Board in September to inform it of the proposed construction.

The event gathered an audience of 230 people.

"The money raised was for the Red Cross's general fund, allowing it to use the money for what it deems necessary," Seese said. "The Red Cross has been doing great things for a long time and it will continue to do great things for decades to come."

The bands first reunited at the Lowell Area Arts Council/Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce's Summer Concert Series. The overwhelming response and good time had by all led to the nostalgic rekindling of that July spirit.

Seese said if there is good cause, the bands would like to continue to help nonprofit organizations raise money through their love of music.

Provided there is enough interest, we'd like to hold a benefit on April 20 for the Lowell Area Arts Council," Seese said.

Returning to play and sing in the Rockin' Reunion for the Red Cross benefit were Brian Adams, Carl Andrews, Chris Collins, Ken Gregersen, Dave Jones, Dale and Cindy Kropf, Dan Lomas, Charlie Luscombe, Roger MacNaughton, Mitch McMahon, Seese and Doug Slocum.

The shirt logo was designed by Gary Eldridge.

# Rockin' Reunion raises the roof and funds for the Red Cross

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Taking a page from its beneficiary, three local bands raised money to help an organization that has done great things for many years.

Scragg Zoster, Alive & Well and the Great Lakes Band held a "Rockin' Reunion" on Nov. 24 with the proceeds going to the American Red Cross.

The event, held at Larkin's Other Place, raised \$2,000. "Once we've successfully sold all the shirts printed up for the event, we expect that number to rise to \$4,000," said event coordinator, Rick Seese.

The event gathered an audience of 230 people.

"The money raised was for the Red Cross's general fund, allowing it to use the money for what it deems necessary," Seese said. "The Red Cross has been doing great things for a long time and it will continue to do great things for decades to come."

The bands first reunited at the Lowell Area Arts Council/Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce's Summer Concert Series. The overwhelming response and good time had by all led to the nostalgic rekindling of that July spirit.

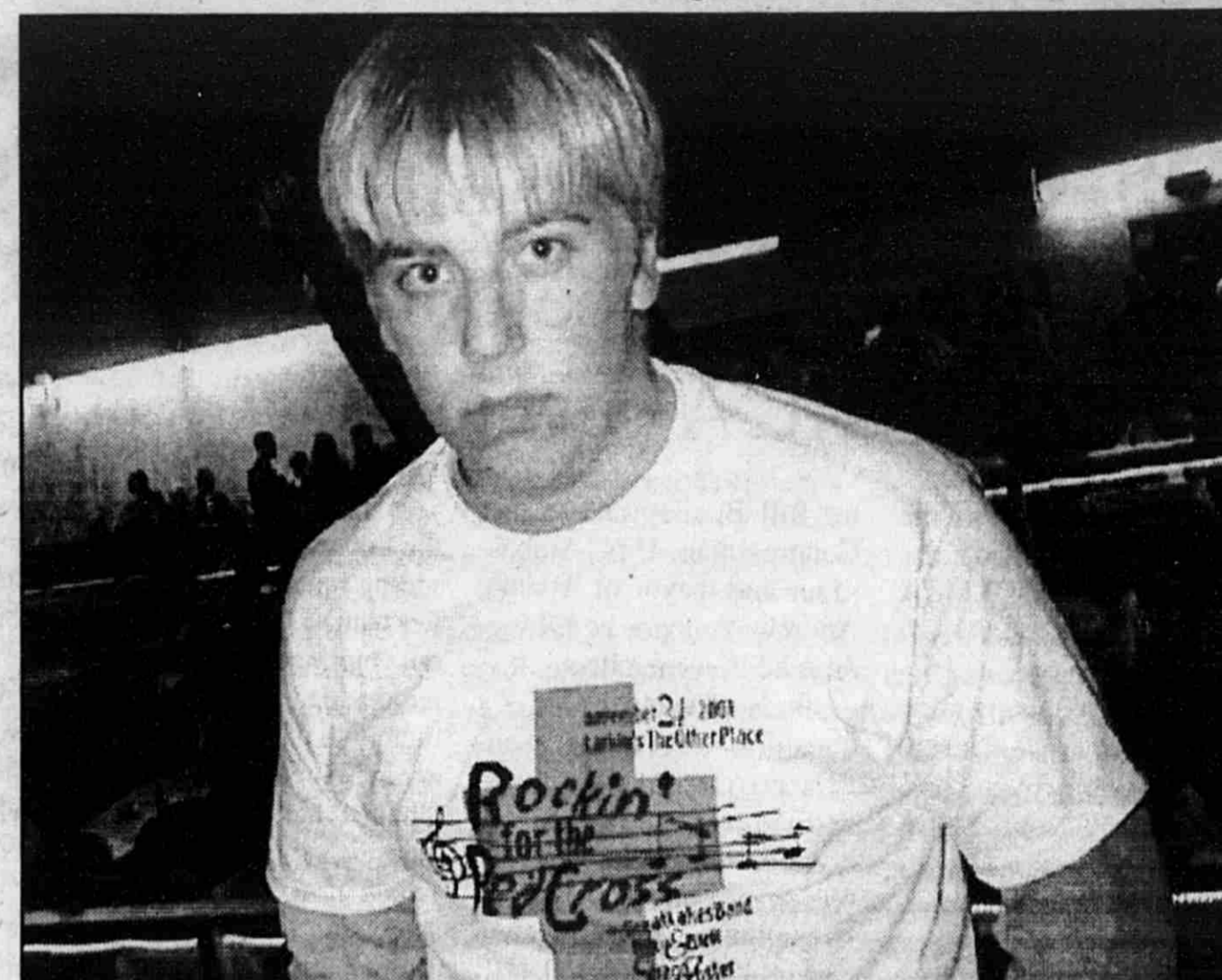
Seese said if there is good cause, the bands would like to

continue to help nonprofit organizations raise money through their love of music.

Provided there is enough interest, we'd like to hold a benefit on April 20 for the Lowell Area Arts Council," Seese said.

Returning to play and sing in the Rockin' Reunion for the Red Cross benefit were Brian Adams, Carl Andrews, Chris Collins, Ken Gregersen, Dave Jones, Dale and Cindy Kropf, Dan Lomas, Charlie Luscombe, Roger MacNaughton, Mitch McMahon, Seese and Doug Slocum.

The shirt logo was designed by Gary Eldridge.



Scott Seese sports the "Rockin' for the Red Cross" t-shirt designed by local artist Gary Eldridge.



Two of West Michigan's talented guitarists, left, Dan Lomas from Alive & Well and right, Doug "Showboat City Slim" Slocum from The Great Lakes Band, trade solos during Rockin' for the Red Cross.



It's the Season for Gifting

Great Gift Ideas  
All For Under \$15!

• Scratch pads of paper, \$1.25 a lb. (while supplies last)

• Seasons Greeting pads of paper w/red or green ink! 2 sizes available \$2.00 & \$4.00

• Key Cards, \$10. Good thru 9/02. Discounts at Lowell & Grand Rapids businesses.

• In-county Subscription to the Lowell Ledger, \$12.50. We'll even send them a Christmas card for you.

Stop by our office for one of these great gifts!

**The Lowell Ledger**

105 N. Broadway, Lowell  
897-9261

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**ADVERTISE**  
 IN THE  
**LEDGER BUSINESS DIRECTORY**  
 As Low as **\$6.60** PER WEEK  
 Call 897-9261

Buy life insurance and save on your home and car.

When you buy your life insurance from us through Auto-Owners Insurance, you'll receive special discounts on your home, mobile home or car insurance. We'll save you money. As an independent Auto-Owners agent, we take great interest in you - as well as your home and car. We are specialists in insuring people and the things they own.

**Speerstra Agency**  
 835 W. Main St.  
 Lowell, MI 49331  
 897-9259  
 (800)804-3322  
 Dale Triplett

**Snowboat AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC.**  
 Complete Machine Shop Service  
 1450 W. Main St., Lowell, MI  
 (616) 897-9231  
 HOURS: MON - FRI 8-7; SAT 8-5:30; SUN 9-3

**QUALITY TAX SERVICE, INC.**  
 216 E. Main St., Lowell  
 (616) 897-7668  
 • CORPORATE, BUSINESS & PERSONAL TAX PREPARATIONS  
 • BUSINESS START-UP & CONSULTING  
 • PAYROLL AND ACCOUNTING SERVICES  
 HOURS: MON - FRI 9 AM - 6 PM • SATURDAY 9 AM - 1 PM  
 Others By Appointment

**STOP SUFFERING!**  
 We Successfully Treat:  
 Whiplash  
 Neck Pain  
 All Headaches  
 Auto Injuries  
 Back Pain  
 Numb Hands/Arms  
 Sports Injuries  
 Work Injuries  
 See a Specialist and See Results!  
 897-4999  
**DOCTORS CHIROPRACTIC**  
 Dr. Anthony Trombly

**AT YOUR SERVICE**  
**Thomet**  
 Chevrolet BUICK  
 SERVICE HOURS: M, T, TH & FR • 8-5 WED • 8-8  
 Phone 897-9254

**Denny Hawk TOWING**  
 Nights & Weekends  
**FAST RESPONSE**  
 Safe SUV Towing  
**868-HAWK**  
 (4295)

**BILL WHEELER**  
 Certified Public Accountant  
 W.J. WHEELER MICHIGAN  
 103 Riverside Dr.  
 Lowell, Michigan 49331  
**616-897-7711**

**From Hospital to Home**  
 The professional staff at The Laurels of Kent can assist you in your transition from hospital to home. With our comprehensive rehabilitation programs, we specialize in helping you regain physical independence after your stay in the hospital. We work with your physician to design an individualized "care plan" to help you achieve the fullest recovery and return home as soon as possible.

**LAURELS OF KENT**  
 350 N. Center • Lowell, MI 49331  
 Call us at 897-8473  
 for information on how Medicare can cover your rehab stay.

**PREVIEW PROPERTIES.COM**  
 CALL **JERRY MALE**  
**897-0229**  
 or 1-800-515-7763  
 Jerry is a full-time professional who will serve all your real estate needs.

**Tuffli Plumbing Co.**  
 Licensed & Insured Master Plumber  
**REPAIR & SERVICE WORK**  
 • 40 Years Experience  
 • Reasonable Prices  
 • Call For Estimates  
 • New Homes  
 • Commercial  
 • Remodeling  
**Ross - 897-7292**

**JB HARRISON INSURANCE AGENCY**  
 COMPETITIVE AUTO RATES

Since 1885 **Hastings Mutual Insurance Company**  
 Hastings, Michigan  
 www.hastingsmutual.com

**Daniel Urich** **Judy Harrison**  
**6090 Alden Nash, Alto 868-0050**

**YOU CAN ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THIS SPACE FOR ONLY \$6.60 PER WEEK**

**SAVE \$\$ At Area Businesses & In Grand Rapids!**

**Key Card**  
 Only \$10  
**HELP SUPPORT LOWELL YOUTH FOOTBALL! BUY A KEY CARD**  
 At The Lowell Ledger office  
 105 N. Broadway

**IONIA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY**  
 3256 S. State Road, Ionia • 527-9040  
 Mon. 8 am-noon • Tues-Sat. 1-7 pm  
 I Need A Home!

This sweet baby is very loving and playful. She is one of many young orange kittens we have at the Shelter right now. We have buff to dark orange, male and female, lovey, and playful. Come and take a look.

**Thomet CHEVROLET BUICK**  
 1250 W. Main, Lowell 897-9294

**Is Your Source For Top Quality GM Vehicles From:**

Or check out Thomet's online at: [gmbypower.com](http://gmbypower.com) or email us at: [s.thomet@inetmail.att.net](mailto:s.thomet@inetmail.att.net)

**OK** **CHEVROLET** **BUICK**  
 "Most Dependable, Longest-Lasting Trucks on the Road" "It's All Good"

A Great Selection Of Used Cars & Trucks & New Car Trades  
 Also See Us For Authorized GM Parts & Service

# History channel premiere focuses on YMCA

## ... Documentary celebrates 150 years of YMCA service

December 29 marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of the first YMCA in America, and you can watch how it all began on The History Channel. A documentary film titled "America's Haven: The YMCA at 150" was produced by YMCA of the USA and will air on the History Channel at 6 p.m. EST. Saturday, Dec. 29.

"The Lowell Branch is proud to share this 'living' history book with The History Channel and the Lowell community," said Will Welsh, Lowell YMCA executive director.

Without the pioneering spirit of national YMCA heroes like Thomas Sullivan who founded the first YMCA and Luther Gulick who revolutionized physical fitness and led the way for James Naismith to invent basketball at the YMCA Training School, the Lowell Branch YMCA might not exist, said Welsh.

Tune in to "America's Haven: The YMCA at 150" to see firsthand how YMCAs have influenced America and how many heroic Americans have strong ties to the YMCA movement. The hour-long documentary features interviews with former U.S. Sena-

tor Bill Bradley and former Congressman, U.N. Ambassador and mayor of Atlanta, Andrew Young - both longtime YMCA members.

It also details the YMCA's transformation from an evangelical group of young, urban Protestant men to a broad-based secular, community organization led, staffed by, and serving men, women and children across all religious and social lines.

America's Haven celebrates YMCA legacies including pioneering mass swimming instruction, teaching English as a second language, service in World War I trenches and World War II POW and Japanese-American detention camps, and the arrival in 1978 of a certain song that spread the Y's story still further around the globe.

YMCAs have served in every one of the nation's struggles since the American Civil War and have received a Nobel Peace Prize as well as a subsequent nomination. Their everyday programs range from infant-parent water orientation to physical rehabilitation, mentoring, youth-in-government, job-skills training and anti-drug and gang intervention.

The Lowell YMCA leads the Lowell community in providing scholarships for families who want to participate in our youth sports, childcare and teen center activities but are unable to pay full price. "We are delighted that The History Channel has chosen to showcase the century and a half in which YMCAs grew with the American Democracy," said Ken Gladish, Ph.D., national executive director of the YMCA of the USA. "It's a vivid portrayal of how

YMCAs have influenced American history, as well as a preview of our plans to move forward into a new century, building strong kids, strong families and strong communities." YMCA of the USA is the national resource office for America's 2,434 YMCAs.

The production of "America's Haven" was generously funded by a grant from the Pepsi Cola Company, which has chosen YMCAs as a charity of choice.

The Lowell YMCA offers sports programs for youth and adult; childcare for ages infant through 5th grade. The Teen Center offers activities for 6th grade through high

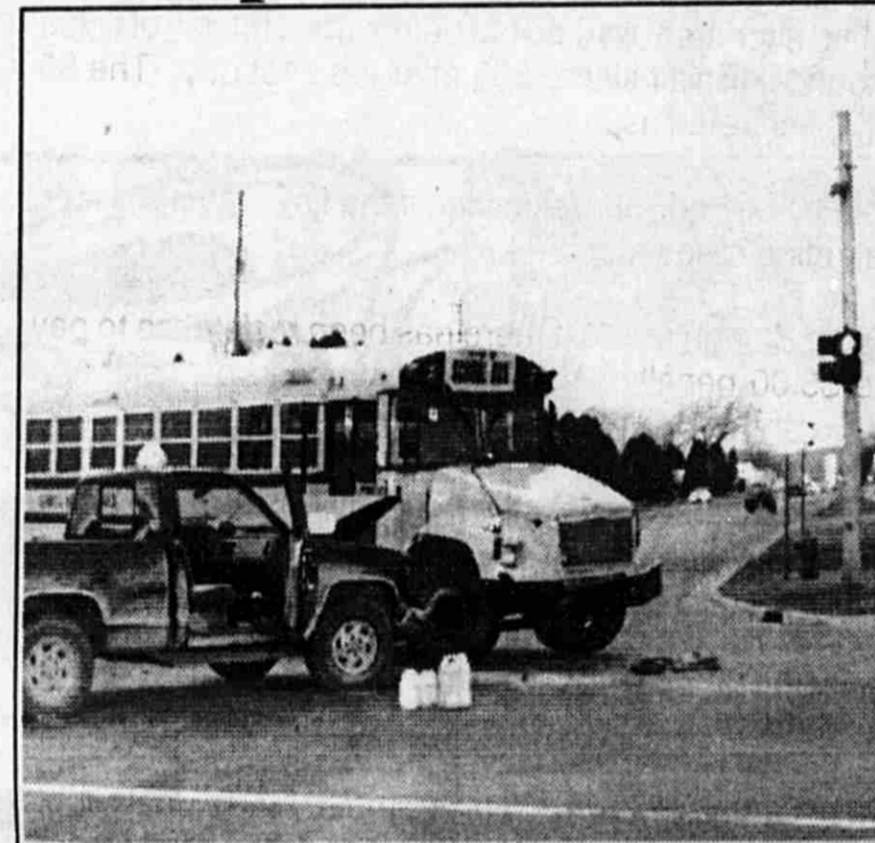
school. Wellness Center offers use of fitness equipment and aerobic classes for adults, youth, teen and senior adults. Scholarship funding is made possible by the Invest In Youth campaign.

Last year, the Lowell Branch YMCA served 1,366 members; 624 volunteers donated 11,500 hours of service; 210 children were involved in preschool programs; 1,812 enrolled in youth programs; 218 teens participated in teen programs. Leaders Club and activities; 1,526 adults joined in fitness programs and leagues; 236 children enrolled in three childcare programs, serving 180 families. In all, 5,992

people of all ages participated in programs, services and memberships at the Lowell YMCA.

The mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all. The cornerstone of all Lowell YMCA programming is the organization's four character development values - caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. The emphasis for all programs, activities and services is on having fun, while at the same time learning a healthy respect for the game, fellow athletes, and officials.

## Pickup truck collides with Lowell school bus



Commuters were slowed by a crash on Tuesday morning at Lowell's West Main Street and Valley Vista Drive intersection. The 7:45 a.m. accident involved a westbound pickup truck and a Lowell school bus. The bus driven by Beverly Covell, of Lowell, was eastbound on Main turning left at the light onto Valley Vista Dr. The pickup driven by Steve Stern, of Saranac, collided with the bus near the boarding door.

There were no children on the bus at the time. Both drivers were slightly injured. The driver of the pickup was transported to Spectrum Health Butterworth, treated and released. The bus driver sought her own treatment.

The accident is still under investigation by Lowell police officer, James Hinton.

No citation has yet been issued however. Stern was determined to be at fault for disobeying a traffic signal by running the yellow light.

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

## PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of MONDAY, November 19, 2001.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Blough and the City Clerk called Roll.

Present: Councilmembers Green, Myers, Shores and Mayor Blough.  
Absent: Councilmember Brubaker.  
Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, City Clerk Betty Morlock, Chief of Police James Valentine, Public Works Director Daniel DesJarden, Planning Commissioner Jim Pfaller and Police Officer James Hinton.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by MYERS to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2001 regular meeting as written.

YEA: 4.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 1.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by GREEN that the bills and accounts payable be allowed and the warrants issued.

YEA: 4.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 1.  
MOTION CARRIED.

<b>BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (11/19/01)</b>	
GENERAL FUND .....	\$126,227.81
MAJOR STREET FUND .....	260.00
LOCAL STREET FUND .....	260.00
DDA FUND .....	275,724.98
CITY HALL CONSTRUCTION FUND .....	450.54
AIRPORT FUND .....	5,511.00
WASTEWATER FUND .....	1,075.10
WATER FUND .....	31,238.69
EQUIPMENT FUND .....	2,810.00
CURRENT TAX FUND .....	17,771.74
CARR FUND .....	500.00

**Item #1. CONSIDERATION OF A NEW FULL YEAR CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE WITH DANCE - ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT - BERGIN BUILDING MANAGEMENT AT 201 E. MAIN STREET.** At its October 15, 2001 meeting, the City Council approved a resolution requesting a Class C Liquor License for 201 East Main Street by Bergin Building Management (Gilmore Enterprises) for a business operating in a Downtown Development Authority District. This resolution along with a similar document adopted by the DDA on October 1 was forwarded to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

As part of the process, the LLC requires a Local Approval Notice be approved by the City Council. Bergin is in line for consideration of the license, but none is set aside at this point.

Councilmember Green questioned the sentence "Local approval is also required for dance, entertainment, dance - entertainment or topless activity permits by authority of MLC". Green understood these were four different types of permits, not three. Police Chief Valentine responded this is correct. Green then inquired if by approving a dance/entertainment permit, the Council would not be approving a topless activity permit. Valentine responded correct.

Mayor Blough clarified dance/entertainment would allow a small band and would also support having a dance floor.

Councilmember Myers asked how this differed from the resolution passed previously. Pasquale responded the previous action was passed to support their application to seek one of the ten DDA licenses, which could be issued by the State.

Myers inquired if this was a new liquor license or one which would be transferred from another location. Pasquale responded it would be a new license.

Myers asked if the document gave the ability to transfer a license. Valentine responded no.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by SHORES to approve the resolution for a new full year Class C Liquor License with a Dance-Entertainment Permit at 201 E. Main Street to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

YEA: 4.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 1.  
MOTION CARRIED.

**Item #2. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR PARKING VIOLATIONS.** Police Chief Valentine explained, with winter approaching, on-street overnight parking enforcement is more crucial. In the past, the department has experienced some delays with individuals paying the ticket issued. There is no enforcement action beyond issuing the initial ticket, unless three or more citations are received which can then be turned over to the District Court. Therefore, the Police Department is asking for a resolution to provide an incentive for individuals to pay their parking summons in a timely fashion.

Specifically, a \$25 fine would be imposed if the violation is paid after the 10th day, but before the 31st day of ticket issuance. This rises to \$50 after the 31st day. The \$5 initial fine remains.

Councilmember Shores asked if the fine was per ticket. Valentine responded yes.

Mayor Blough asked if there has been resistance to pay the \$5.00 penalty. Valentine responded occasionally. Currently, an initial letter is sent out. If no response is received, another letter is issued stating the individual would be turned over for prosecution. However, this action is no longer available.

Councilmember Myers asked if Valentine compared the fee with other similar sized communities. Valentine responded no.

Green inquired the length of time an individual would have to contest the ticket. Valentine responded at least 10 days.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by MYERS to adopt a resolution establishing penalties for parking violations.

YEA: 4.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 1.  
MOTION CARRIED.

**Item #3. AUTHORIZATION OF THE 2002 GYPSY MOTH PROGRAM.** Over the past several years, the City has contracted with the Kent County Conservation District regarding a gypsy moth suppression program. Last year, 80 acres in the City were involved.

In 2002, the District is requesting the City's interest to continue the program. First, areas will be surveyed. Those on the west end of town were actually sprayed. In order for an area to be sprayed, there has to be a significant number of egg masses. This has worked very well for the City. The City has had problems, particularly around the cemetery. It appears this is coming under control. Pasquale has asked the Conservation District to examine the cemetery to ensure the egg masses are low. If these aren't, then there would be spraying.

Based on the results, spraying is to take place in May. Prices include \$6 per acre to survey and \$20 per acre to spray.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by GREEN to approve City participation in the 2002 Gypsy Moth Program.

YEA: 4.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 1.  
MOTION CARRIED.

**Item #4. MONTHLY REPORTS.** Councilmember Myers questioned the location of fire calls for the month of October. The report indicated there were seven in the City of Lowell, seven in Lowell Township and eight in Vergennes Township. He asked if the numbers for year to date were similar to that in terms of equal fire protection. City Manager Pasquale believed so, responding each area pays per run while the training costs are split accordingly.

**Item #5. CITIZEN COMMENTS:** No comments were received.

**Item #6. COUNCIL COMMENTS.** Councilmember Green offered congratulations to those who won Council seats (Councilmembers Myers, Shores and Brubaker as well as Jim Pfaller). Green also mentioned Al Mathews, who ran for the office.

Mayor Blough thanked everyone who voted.

Blough was contacted by a Vergennes Township resident who is a member of a group which is reviewing a proposed natural areas inventory study. This is being overseen by Vergennes and Lowell townships. The project goal is to identify ecologically significant natural areas within Vergennes and Lowell townships, to describe such sites with respect to their natural and conservation values and to provide each township with a report summarizing the sites and the overall results of the inventory. The study would be conducted by Calvin College students on a part-time basis. The resulting inventory could be used as a planning tool or reference document. The committee intends to submit an application to the Lowell Community Fund for funding. An informational meeting would be held on Wednesday, November 28, 7:00 p.m. at Vergennes Township Hall. The group would ask for a statement of resolution in support for this tool to be funded and subsequently assembled. Blough encouraged attendance at the meeting.

Myers inquired what the cost would be. Blough responded under \$25,000.

Blough inquired if there was a line item in the budget for the Lowell Showboat maintenance. Pasquale responded yes. He stated there is a total of \$691.78 with a remaining balance of \$6,638.22.

Blough also noted there are many areas along the shoreline of the Riverwalk which are quite deep. A toddler or small animal would have difficulty getting out if they fell in. Public Works Director Dan DesJarden stated rocks and stones would be placed along the shore.

Blough also stated refuse from natural items as well as construction residue has floated down the river and has backed up. DesJarden stated this would be cleaned up.

**Item #7. MANAGER'S REPORT.** City Manager Pasquale reported on the following:

- A. The following meetings minutes were provided:
  - Downtown Development Authority meeting of October 11, 2001
  - Airport Board meeting of October 2, 2001
  - Chamber of Commerce meeting of October 10, 2001

B. In response to City Council comments, the intersection of Sibley and Ridgeview has been repaved, completed over the past week. This work is part of the Conservatory Woods Condominium project, which is under construction. The first leg of Ridgeview Drive extension is being built by the developers.

Police Chief Valentine explained there is a three-way stop sign at the intersection. The stop sign at Roberta Jayne and Sibley has been removed.

C. Also, in response to a Council inquiry, Pasquale briefly discussed the status of the White's Bridge property, which the City donated to the State for the development of a canoe launch and related facilities with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The donation took place through Council meeting held on January 6, 1992 (Councilmember Green's first meeting). Since then, nothing has been accomplished.

Pasquale spoke with David Olson of the DNR Plainwell Office about the status. He said because of reorganization, the project fell through the cracks. Pasquale was then referred to John Winters of the Grand Rapids office who now has this project responsibility. An updated report will be provided to Council.

D. The City Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23 for Thanksgiving.

HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: Monday, December 3, 2001

Michael K. Blough, Mayor  
Betty R. Morlock, Clerk

## YMCA MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE



**\$300 PER TEAM**  
**JANUARY 15 - MARCH 19**  
**Every Tuesday Night**  
**6:00 - 9:00 PM**  
**Lowell Middle School**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE- JANUARY 7, 2002**


- The season will be 10 weeks long playing 10 games.
- All games will have 2, 18-min. halves (3 min. half time).
- The clock will stop for free throws, time outs and injuries.
- Teams may have 9 players on their roster; only 8 may play in the game. The 9th man is a sub.
- Registration: Call the Lowell YMCA at 897-8445, Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Friday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.
- The YMCA will give each team numbered game shirts.
- YMCA staff officials will ref every game.
- In the event of school cancellations, please call the YMCA Program Hotline at 897-8445 ext. 705. Make-up dates will be determined by the YMCA.

## GIVE THE GIFT OF HEALTH THIS CHRISTMAS!

Purchase a **LOWELL YMCA** GIFT CERTIFICATE for your loved ones!

All memberships purchased for the holiday season will receive a free T-shirt, fitness assessment and personal training session.

CALL THE YMCA at 897-8445 ext. 710 for more information





**On Saturday The Ledger asked youngsters at the Lowell Christmas Parade**  
**“What would you like Santa to bring you for Christmas?”**



Hunter Walker

A lot of Tonka Trucks.



Matthew Walker

A scientist kit.



Ryne Clarke

Toys and a rescue hero.



Logan Phenix

A Tony Hawk skateboard and a pogo stick.



Courtney Phenix

An American Girl doll.



Emma MacDonald

Leggos and Barbies.



Nick MacDonald

Harry Potter Leggos School and a train station.



Malorie Coble

CD's (N' Sync).



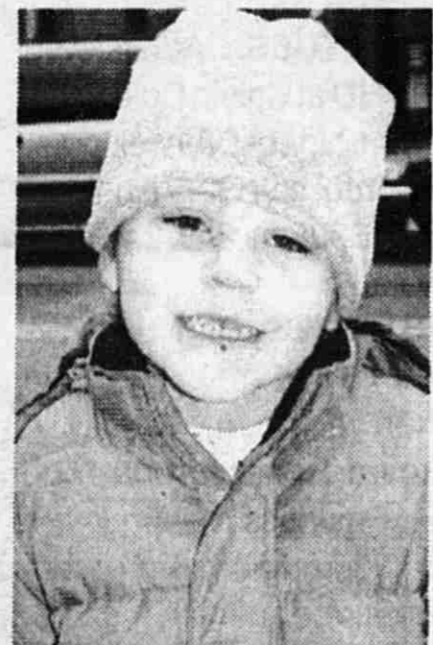
Joey Senneker

A watch and a television.



Bryan Senneker

A four-wheeler.



Kaya Overley

A make-up set.



Ciera Johnson

A doll as big as me so I can wear her gown.



Zachary Diamond

A racing T-shirt.



Molly Mooney

A new toy.



Sydney Fox

A Nutcracker Barbie.



MacKenzie Fox

A telescope.



Jessie Steiner

Sleeping Beauty Barbie and a Sleeping Beauty Costume.



Brianna Steiner

A Barbie Cinderella.



Brady Fox

A tractor and tools (hammer, screw driver and nails).



**PAYING HIGH PRICES FOR CLASSIFIED ADS?**

Place a classified ad in the Lowell Ledger for as little as a buck!

Stop by our office or call!  
 105 N. Broadway  
 897-9261

**ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL**  
 11610 E. Fulton St.  
**Bruce Langlois, D.V.M.**  
**FAMILY PET PRACTICE**

- Evenings & Saturday Hours Available
- Early Drop Off & House Calls
- 24 Hour Emergency Service
- Science Diet Pet Foods
- Boarding & Grooming
- Sick or Injured Animals Seen The Same Day

**Call 897-8484**  
 We want to be your other family doctor!

**EXTRA EXTRA!**

**DON'T MISS YOUR LOCAL NEWS!!!**

LHS Sports • Weddings • Engagements • Births • News of Local High School & College Students & Those In The Armed Forces • Honor Roll • Church News • Several Weekly Columns

**And Much, Much More!**

**The Lowell Ledger**

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**

SUBSCRIPTION RATES				
In County .....	\$12 <sup>50</sup> .....	1 year	Outside Kent County .....	\$17 <sup>50</sup> ... 1 Year
In County .....	\$23 <sup>00</sup> .....	2 year	Outside Kent County .....	\$33 <sup>00</sup> ... 2 Year
Seniors deduct \$1 per year from the above rates				

Just Send Your Check to:  
 The Lowell Ledger  
 P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331  
 Or stop by our office at:  
 105 N. Broadway





# Lowell basketball opponents will be well "guard"ed in 2001-02

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

First-year Lowell varsity basketball coach, Jeff McDonald provides a short, guarded answer when defining a successful 2001-02 campaign.

"Improvement, unselfish play and displaying character on the floor," McDonald explained. "A team could go 20-0 and not display any of those qualities."

The Red Arrows could display all of those qualities and still have a limited number of victories to show for, come the end of the season.

Lowell has a record of 8-53 over the last three years. "We've struggled and yet there are four seniors still here. That shows some character and is something I'd like to build on," McDonald

said. "The boys need to believe in themselves, play hard and take care of the ball."

To do the latter, Lowell will need good guard play. "Guards, we have a lot of them," McDonald notes. He's not kidding. Lowell has the letter "G" after nine names on its roster.

While not big, McDonald does have athletes. "In terms of the ability to run the floor, we're quite athletic," McDonald said. "We're going to have to use that to dictate the tempo. We must control the tempo."

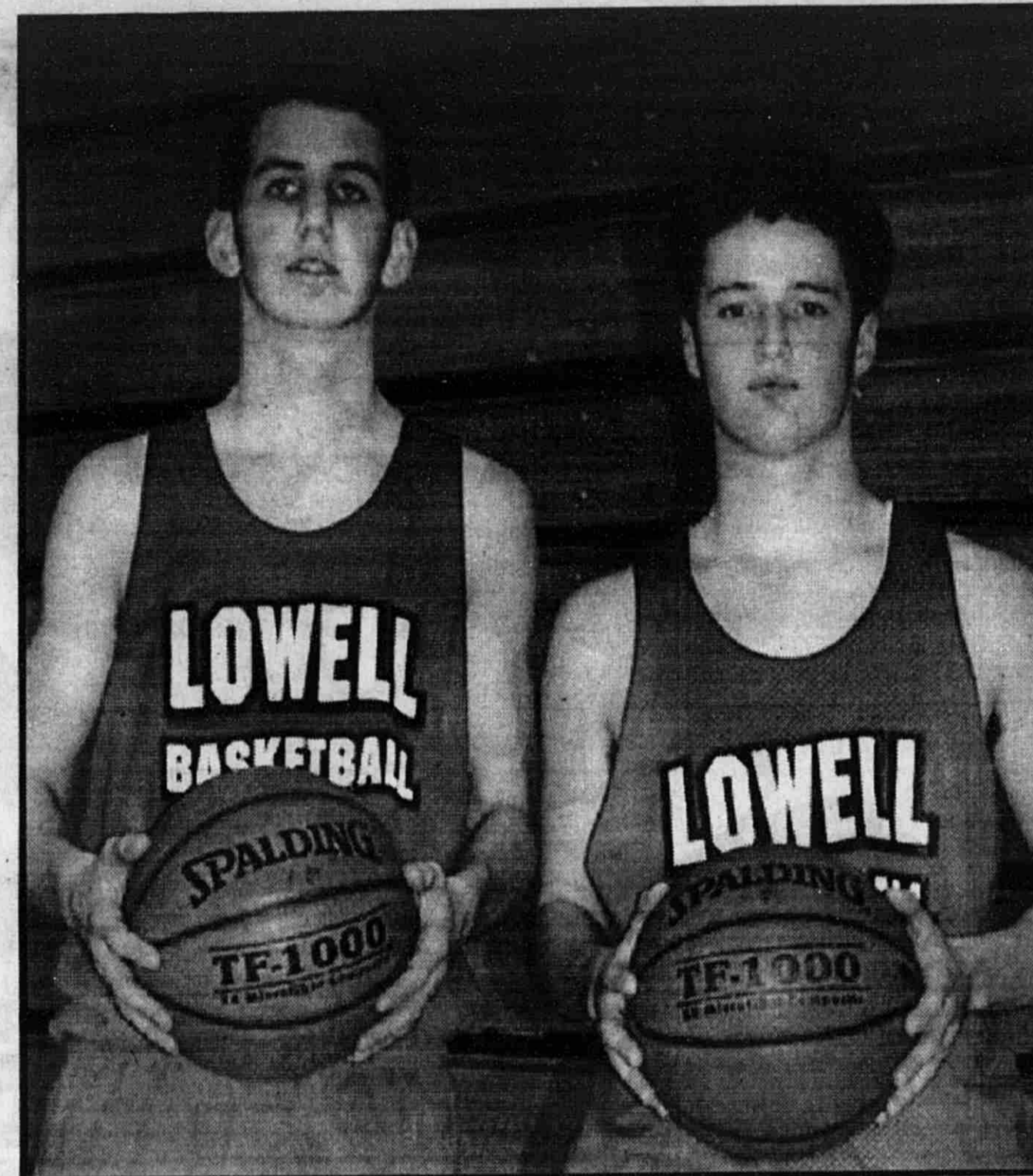
In its half-court offense, Lowell's colors may look more like Hoosier red with all the screens they will be setting. "We not only have to set screens so our shooters can get great shots, but all five players on the floor must

be able to read the screens," said McDonald.

On defense, Lowell will play a lot of man-to-man and help-side defense. "Great defense is a choice. You don't have to be quick, but you have to be in the right position and be able to anticipate. This is a must if we're going to eliminate giving up easy baskets," McDonald explains. "Defense also requires communication between players - saying things that mean something. That comes with daily drilling."

Lowell sophomore, Sam Oberlin combines athleticism and great basketball skill. "He's a very good sophomore basketball player who has great instincts for the game. Sam can create his own shots and in doing so, he also cre-

**Basketball, cont'd, pg. 17**



Lowell varsity basketball tri-captains, pictured left to right, are: Sam Oberlin and Bill Harrison. Not pictured is Zach Beachum.

# Experience will make a difference in Red Arrows' second year of varsity hockey

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

With one year under its belt, and nearly 60 percent of its roster returning, the Lowell High School varsity hockey team is better prepared for the grind of playing in the third tier of the O-K Rainbow Conference.

"Last year none of our players had varsity playing experience. This year eight of the 14 players have experience," said Lowell hockey coach, Paul Jacobus. "That will make a difference. The boys better understand what's necessary to be prepared for a game."

Competing in the third tier of the O-K Rainbow will pit Lowell against teams it was competitive with last year. "We will still play some second tier teams and that will be challenging," said Jacobus.

In its conference, the Red Arrows will compete against Ottawa Hills, South Christian, Northview and Wayland.

"South Christian is the favorite and West Ottawa is probably a close second," Jacobus explains.

The Red Arrows' efforts in 2001-02 will be anchored by the play of its defensemen.

Chad Rau, an honorable mention all-conference defenseman last year, will play across from Austin Hunt. It is Hunt's first year playing varsity hockey, although he has travel hockey experience.

"They both can control the puck and move up ice and make passes to forwards," Jacobus said. "Their experience is going to make a huge difference."

Eric Austin, the team MVP and leading scorer last year, returns at the forward position.

Playing alongside him will be Matt Horan, an experienced, intelligent player.

Caledonia's Chris Rybicki returns. Jacobus calls him an impact player.

Jeremy Stein returns for a second year in the net. "The experience he gained last year should really help this year," Jacobus said.

The Lowell coach points to his club's play at the blue line as its strength.

"With a strong defense I think we will be able to hold off teams and create more scoring opportunities for our forwards," Jacobus concludes.

# Red Arrows still eyeing that elusive state championship

... After three consecutive state runner-up finishes, Lowell hopes a fourth trip could be the crowning moment.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell can thank three consecutive state runner-up finishes for its pre-season number one ranking in wrestling.

"We're not the best team in Division II right now, but

we plan on being there," said Lowell wrestling coach, Dave Strejc. "It's nice knowing our program is thought of so nicely."

That nice program returns nine starters from a year ago, seven of which qualified for

the individual state tournament.

"We want to win and believe we can win a state title this year because of the small steps we've taken along the way. Many of these boys began preparing for the season a week after last year's state

tournament," Strejc said.

Nine of the Red Arrow grapplers competed on Team Michigan over the summer.

As for the three narrow misses in the state finals, "It's pursuing the path of excellence that is rewarding. Knowing that you gave your all, win or lose you finish a champion," Strejc said. "The one I and everyone wishes we would have won was in 1998, Coach Rivers' last year."

In its opening triangular meet against Grand Haven and Greenville, Strejc's lineup will start with freshman, Joe Mendez wrestling at 103 pounds; Mike Near-

ing, 112; and Brandon Kinney, 119.

"Mendez is a Greco Roman state champion and a member of Team Michigan. Kinney has been relentless all summer in his pursuit of a state title," Strejc said.

The upper weights are solid with B.J. Frazier (seventh in the state) at 189 and Ben Fleet (fourth in the state) at 215; Ben Vaught (state qualifier) will wrestle heavy-weight.

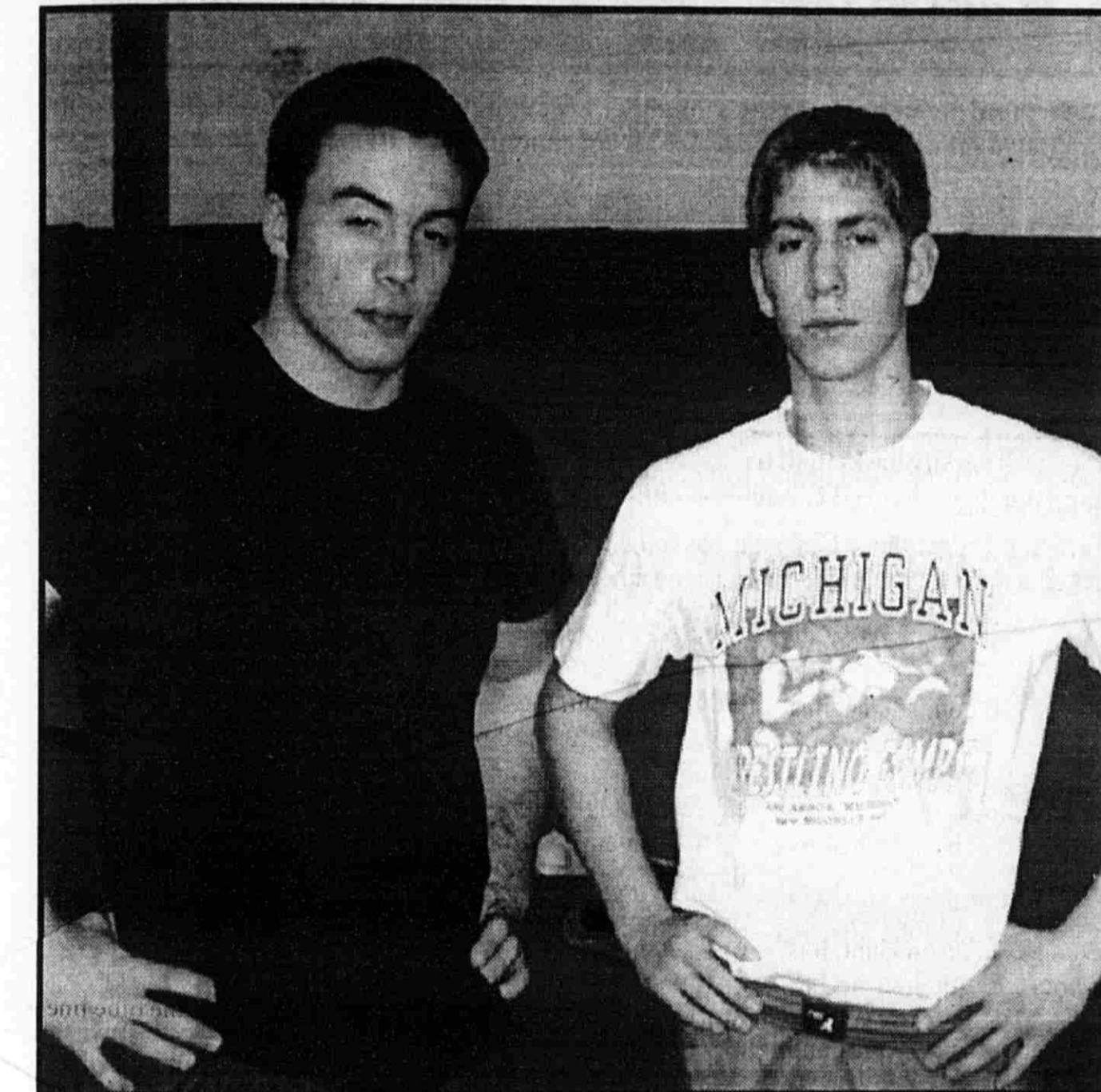
The Red Arrows are favored to win their second consecutive O-K White title, however, Northview and Forest Hills Central are expected to make things tough.

Filling the slots from 145 to 171 are Bobby Gingerich

(145), Braton Fredline (152), Josh Vaught (160) and Mike Forward (171).

"People are going to see a different Mike Forward this year. Gingerich is a state runner-up," Strejc said.

The Red Arrows are favored to win their second consecutive O-K White title, however, Northview and Forest Hills Central are expected to make things tough.



Lowell wrestling tri-captains for the 2001-02 season, pictured left to right, are: Ben Fleet and Ian DeRath. Not pictured is Ben Vaught.

# FHC/Lowell youth replaces familiarity

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

The Forest Hills/Lowell boys swim team will have plenty of new faces to replace the familiar senior faces gone from a year ago.

"Obviously we have some big holes to fill, but I have a young group of swimmers who are excited, energetic and appear to be committed to the sport," said Forest Hills/Lowell swim coach, Heather Heritage.

The Rangers open with four nonconference dual meets and three relays before diving into their conference schedule.

"With the way our schedule works, our league meets are at the end," Heritage explains. "That's really nice with a young squad. It gives the boys time to build up, develop

**Swimming, cont'd, pg. 18**

# Basketball, cont'd... From Page 16

ates opportunities for others," McDonald said.

After Oberlin, a healthy Landon Trierweiler may possess the most basketball skill. "Getting Landon healthy will make a difference," McDonald said.

Oberlin's backcourt help will come from Craig Carpenter, Bill Harrison, Mark Catlin and Andy McQueen.

"Carpenter is very unselfish, McQueen is physical and has a good left-handed shot, and Catlin is athletic and extremely competitive," McDonald said.

All of the height on the frontline is with 6'5" center, Logan Dykstra. Zach Beachum provides some size, although he's injured to start the season.

Other members of the team include Mike Fosburg, Mark Biener and Shaun Koning. Lowell opens the season with its annual non-conference opener against Lakewood.

<p><b>Lowell Family Medical Ctr.</b> James C. Lang, D.O. 2550 W. Main 252-5600</p>	<p><b>Keiser's Kitchen</b> 700 E. Main 897-8455</p>	<p><b>Mark Johnson</b> 6095-28th Ste. 4 940-8181</p>
<p><b>Martin Vredenburg, D.D.S.</b> 1150 N. Hudson 897-8429</p>	<p><b>State Farm Insurance</b> Roger D. Chapman, Agent 217 W. Main 897-9237</p>	<p><b>Michael J. Tummino Jr., P.C.</b> 311 E. Main 897-5931</p>
<p><b>Showboat Automotive Supply Inc.</b> 1450 W. Main 897-9231</p>	<p><b>Thomet Chevrolet &amp; Buick</b> 1250 W. Main 897-9294</p>	<p><b>Harold Zeigler Ford</b> 11979 E. Fulton 897-8431</p>
<p><b>Modern Photographics</b> 104 W. Main 897-5606</p>	<p><b>Greenridge Realty</b> 1160 W. Main 897-9239</p>	<p><b>Hooper Printing</b> 2125 Bowes Rd. 897-6719</p>

<p><b>Lowell Light &amp; Power</b> Lowell Cable Television 127 N. Broadway 897-8402 897-8405</p>	<p><b>Arctic, Inc.</b> 1301 Bowes Rd. 897-4123</p>	<p><b>Lowell Family Medical Ctr.</b> John Meier Kevin E. Miller 2550 W. Main 252-5600</p>
<p><b>Huntington Banks</b> 414 E. Main &amp; 1425 W. Main 897-3276 897-4153</p>	<p><b>King Milling Company</b> 115 S. Broadway 897-9264</p>	<p><b>W.G. (Mac) McPherson C.L.U.</b> Mass Mutual The Blue Chip Co. Phone 459-7219 Ext. 304</p>
<p><b>Blue Ribbon Feed</b> 420 W. Main 897-5921</p>	<p><b>James Reagan D.D.S.</b> 207 W. Main 897-7179</p>	<p><b>Lowell Family Medical Ctr.</b> Paul R. Gauthier D.O. 2550 W. Main 252-5600</p>
<p><b>Kropf Orchard</b> 12025 Four Mile 897-9216</p>	<p><b>Curtis Cleaners</b> 1410 W. Main 897-9809</p>	<p><b>David Durkee O.D. F.A.A.O.</b> 2186 W. Main 897-2020</p>



# No snow but Santa arrives on time

